

Great Books for Fourth Grade Readers at the Pleasanton Public Library

Compiled by the Pleasanton Library
Children's Staff



Books are shelved in
Children's Fiction
by author's last name
and/or
Children's Paperbacks
by first letter of author's last name
(unless otherwise noted).

Ellie McDoodle: Have Pen, Will Travel

by Ruth McNally Barshaw
(170 p) *Ellie McDoodle series*
Eleven-year-old Ellie McDoodle illustrates her sketchbook with chronicles of her adventures and mishaps while camping with her cousins, aunt, and uncle.



Annie Glover is Not a Tree Lover



by Darleen Beard (120 p)
When her grandmother chains herself to the tree across from the school to save it from being cut down, fourth-grader Annie wants to die of humiliation, but when she discovers the town's history, her attitude changes.

Moving Day by Meg Cabot



(228 p) *Audiobook available*
Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls series
Nine-year-old Allie Finkle has rules for everything and is even writing her own rule book, but her world is turned upside-down when she learns that her family is moving across town, which will mean a new house, school, best friend, and plenty of new rules.

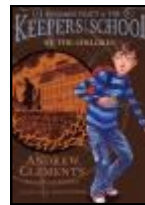
No Talking by Andrew Clements

(146 p) *Audiobook available*
The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.



We the Children by Andrew Clements

(142 p) *Audiobook available*
Benjamin Pratt and the Keepers of the School series



Ben Pratt's life is full of changes that he does not like — his parents' separation and the plan to demolish his seaside school to build an amusement park. Then the school janitor gives him a tarnished coin with some old engravings and dies. Ben is then drawn into an adventure as he hopes to keep the school from being destroyed.

How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

(214 p) *Audiobook available*
How to Train Your Dragon series
This humorous book chronicles the adventures and misadventures of Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third

as he tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan, the Tribe of the Hairy Hooligans, by catching and training a dragon.

Bettina Valentino and the Picasso Club



by Niki Daly (103 p)
A controversial new teacher at Bayside Preparatory School introduces the exciting world of art to aspiring artist Bettina Valentino and her fifth-grade classmates, encouraging them to see everyday life in a different way.

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies

(173 p) *Audiobook available*
Lemonade War series

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars.



The Cheshire Cheese Cat: A Dickens of a Tale by Carmen Agra Deedy

(228 p) *Audiobook available*
A community of mice and a cheese-loving cat form an unlikely alliance at London's Cheshire Cheese, an inn where Charles Dickens finds inspiration and Queen Victoria makes an unexpected appearance.



Ibby's Magic Weekend by Heather Dyer



(140 p) *Audiobook available*
When Ibby visits her two troublemaking cousins she learns about an old box of magic tricks they found hidden in the attic. After having lots of fun trying out different tricks they uncover the mystery of Uncle Godfrey. He was a professional magician who disappeared years ago!

Dear Max by Sally Grindley

(140 p) *Sequel: Bravo Max*
As Max—who is almost ten—and his favorite author, D.J. Lucas, exchange letters, the two writers help each other with their new books and develop a special friendship.



Invisible Inkling by Emily Jenkins

(154 p) *Invisible Inkling series*
When Hank Wolowitz runs into trouble in the form of a lunch-stealing bully, he finds an unlikely ally in an invisible refugee pumpkin-loving bandapat named Inkling.



My Rotten Life by David Lubar

(160 p) *Nathan Abercrombie, Accidental Zombie series*
Tired of continually having his feelings hurt by popular students and bullies, fifth-grader Nathan agrees to try an experimental formula, Hurt-Be-Gone, and becomes a half-dead zombie, a condition which, he soon discovers, has some real advantages.



Melonhead by Katy Kelly

(209 p) *Melonhead series*
In the Washington, D.C. neighborhood of Capitol Hill, Adam "Melonhead" Melon, a budding inventor with a knack for getting into trouble, enters a science contest that challenges students to recycle an older invention into a new invention.



This list represents a small selection of fiction that appeals to fourth graders. This list is not intended to limit a child's reading, for there is no "perfect" fourth grade book.

Pleasanton Public Library
Children's Services
400 Old Bernal Ave.
Pleasanton, California 94566

(925) 931-3400

Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

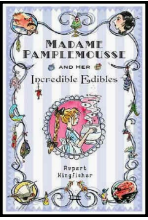


5/2013

Madame Pamplemousse and Her Indredible

Edibles by Rupert Kingfisher

(138 p) *Madame Pamplemousse series*
Forced to work in her unpleasant uncle’s horrible restaurant, a Parisian girl finds comfort and companionship in a shop nearby that sells otherworldly food prepared by a mysterious cook and cat.



The Dragon in the Sock Drawer by Kate Klimo



(159 p) *Dragon Keepers series*
Cousins Jesse and Daisy always knew they would have a magical adventure, but they are not prepared when the “thunder egg” Jesse has found turns out to be a dragon egg that is about to hatch.

Dying to Meet You by Sarah Klise

(147 p) *43 Old Cemetery Road series*
In this story told mostly through letters, children’s book author, I.B. Grumpy, gets more than he bargained for when he rents a quiet place to write for the summer.



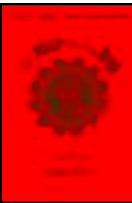
Flight of the Phoenix by R.L LaFevers

(137 p) *Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist series*



In 1928, when timid ten-year-old Nate learns that his parents have been lost at sea, he joins his father’s cousin on a flight to Arabia where thy must oversee the death and rebirth of the phoenix, thus beginning his training as a “beastologist.”

The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin



(134 p) *Pacy Lin series*
Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.

Mason Dixon: Pet Disasters

by Claudia Mills
(119 p) *Mason Dixon series*
Soon-to-be-fourth-grader Mason Dixon does not want a pet, but his parents think



it will be good for him. Then he and his best friend Brody adopt Dog, a three legged dog, and he starts to feel differently.

Fairest of All by Sarah Mlynowski

(169 p) *Whatever After series*
After moving to a new house, ten-year-old Abby and her younger brother, Jonah discover an antique mirror that transports them into the Snow White fairy tale.



Secrets at Sea by Richard Peck

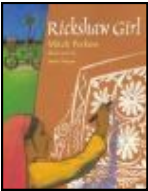
(238 p) *Sequel: The Mouse with the Question Mark Tail*



In 1887, the social-climbing Cranstons voyage from New York to London, where they hope to find a husband for their awkward older daughter. Secretly they are accompanied by Helen and her mouse siblings, for whom the journey is both terrifying and wondrous as they meet an array of titled humans despite their best efforts at remaining hidden.

Rickshaw Girl by Mitali Perkins

(91 p)
In her Bangladesh village, ten-year-old Naimi excels at painting designs called alpanas, but to help her impoverished family financially she would have to be a boy — or disguise herself as one.



One Day and One Amazing Morning on Orange Street by Joanne Rocklin



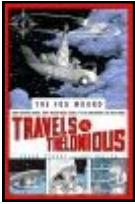
(207 p)
The last remaining orange tree on a Southern California street brings together neighbors of all ages as they face their problems and anxieties, including the possibility that a mysterious stranger is a threat to the tree.

Riding Freedom by Pam Muñoz Ryan



(138 p)
In the mid-1800’s, Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst wanted to work with horses so badly that she posed as a boy and moved to California to be a stagecoach driver.

Travels of Thelonious by Susan Schade



(214 p) *Fog Mound series*
At a time when animals only know myths about the talking humans who once dominated and nearly destroyed the world, a young chipmunk escapes danger in the City of Ruins and, with new friends, searches for the Fog Mound, where all creatures live in peace and harmony.

Penelope Crumb by Shawn Stout

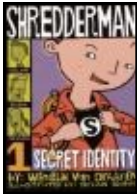
(124 p) *Penelope Crumb series*



Penelope Crumb is no ordinary fourth-grader. She carries around a red toolbox that used to belong to her father (who’s been dead since she was a baby), she is convinced that her brother is turning into an alien, and she just found out she really does have a very large nose that she inherited from Grandpa Felix.

Shredderman: Secret Identity

by Wendelin Van Draanen
(138p) *Shredderman series*
Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd, tired of being called names by the class bully, has a secret identity—Shredderman!



Dragonbreath by Ursula Vernon



(146 p) *Dragonbreath series*
Danny Dragonbreath and his friend Wendell get an up-close underwater tour of the Sargasso Sea from Danny’s sea-serpent cousin, encountering giant squid and mako sharks — and learning about standing up to bullies in the process.

The Secret of the Skeleton Key

by Penny Warner
(209 p) *Code Busters Club series*
Using their code-breaking skills, four middle-schoolers solve the mystery of the eccentric man who draws stick figures on his second-floor bedroom window.



Oggie Cooder by Sarah Weeks

(172 p) *Audiobook available* — *Oggie Cooder series*
Quirky fourth-grader Oggie Cooder goes from being shunned to everyone’s best friend when his uncanny ability to chew slices of cheese into the shapes of states wins him a slot on a popular television talent show, but

he soon learns the perils of being a celebrity — and having a neighbor girl as his manager.

The Prairie Thief by Melissa Wiley (215 p)



In late nineteenth-century Colorado, Louisa’s father is erroneously arrested for thievery and, while under the charge of the awful Smirch family, Louisa and a magical friend must find a way to prove his innocence.

Bobby Versus Girls (Accidentally) by Lisa Yee



(170 p) *Bobby Ellis-Chan series*
When Bobby inadvertently gets into a fight with his best friend Holly, their disagreement develops into a boys versus girls war involving their whole fourth-grade class.

Paperback series

shelved in J Paperbacks by first letter of series title

[American Girl](#) by various authors

[Andrew Lost](#) by J.C. Greenburg

[Beast Quest](#) by Adam Blade

[Boxcar Children](#) by Gertrude C. Warner

[Chet Gecko Mysteries](#) by Bruce Hale

[Comeback Kids](#) by Mike Lupica

[Disney Fairies](#) by various authors

[Encyclopedia Brown](#) by Donald Sobol

[Fourth Grade Fairy](#) by Eileen Cook

[Franny K. Stein](#) by Jim Benton

[Geronimo Stilton](#) by Geronimo Stilton

[Lily Quench](#) by Natalie Jane Prior

[My Weird School](#) by Dan Gutman

[Puppy Place](#) by Ellen Miles

[Secret Agent Jack Stalwart](#) by Elizabeth Singer Hunt

[Hank Zipzer](#) by Henry Winkler
(shelved in J Paperbacks “W”)